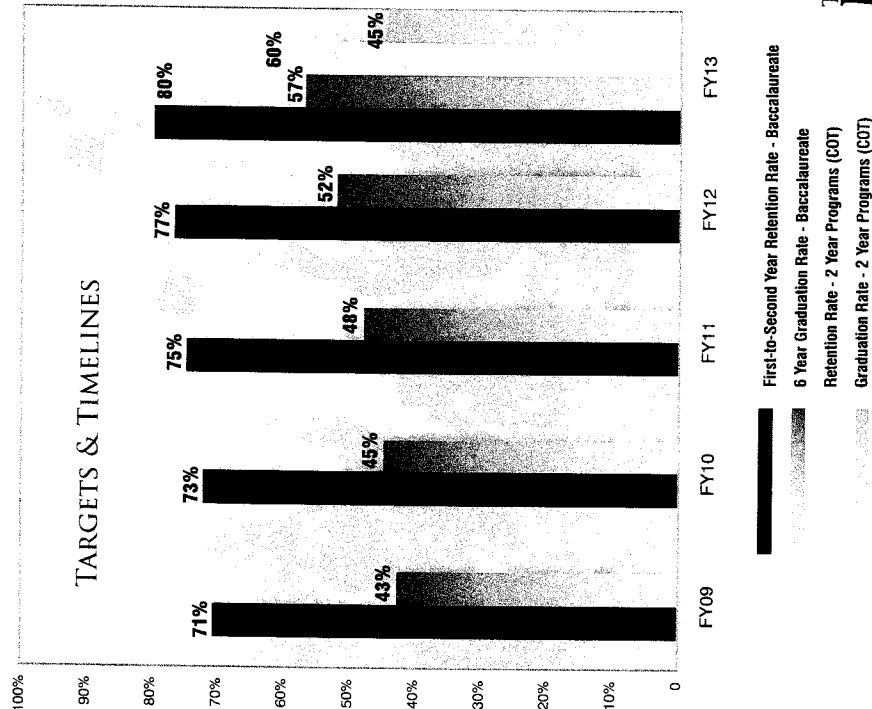


IMPLEMENTATION

Several of the Actions are already underway, and many more are in the planning stages. An oversight committee will be formed to monitor implementation.

Each school or college will supplement PARTNERING FOR STUDENT SUCCESS with program-specific actions that promote student success. Progress on this plan will be examined quarterly, with an Annual Progress Report to be published each November, beginning in 2009.



The University of
Montana

To view The Action Plan in its entirety, go to www.umt.edu/partnering.

PARTNERING FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

A COLLABORATIVE ACTION PLAN
FOR STUDENT RETENTION
2009-2013

The Offices of
Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Administration and Finance

THE ACTION PLAN

Previous initiatives aimed at increasing student retention have helped The University of Montana achieve its reputation for excellence as a student-oriented institution. **PARTNERING FOR STUDENT SUCCESS** builds on those past efforts. It proposes innovative new programs and reaffirms existing programs that contribute to student retention and success.

PARTNERING FOR STUDENT SUCCESS identifies six key issues critical to student success in college. The plan sets forth wide-ranging Actions, several of which are listed below. For the complete list of Actions, visit the **PARTNERING FOR STUDENT SUCCESS** web site at www.umt.edu/partnering.

▲ PREPARING K-12 STUDENTS

ACTION: Work with K-12 school systems to implement specific learning outcomes and measures of a college preparatory curriculum.

ACTION: Develop a "Preparing for College" communication program for students, parents and teachers.

▲ TRANSITIONING TO COLLEGE

ACTION: Develop an admissions policy responsive to student potential; obtain Board of Regents approval.

ACTION: Review business policies and procedures, modifying those that serve as barriers or challenges to student retention.

▲ INTEGRATING THE EARLY COLLEGE CURRICULUM

ACTION: Develop a more context-based, integrated curriculum, beginning in the first year and effectively interfacing with general education.

ACTION: Emphasize the College of Technology's role in developmental education and transferable coursework.

▲ ENGAGING STUDENTS

ACTION: Implement Living/Learning Communities; identify student participants; select themes and recruit faculty.

ACTION: Establish a Center for Academic Enrichment to promote and coordinate opportunities for students beyond the classroom.

▲ STRENGTHENING STUDENT SUPPORT

ACTION: Establish an Office for Academic Retention and Success to oversee all advising, tutoring (the Writing Center, Math Learning Centers, STUDY JAM), developmental coursework, and targeted programs for first-year and at-risk students.

ACTION: Develop a comprehensive portfolio of actions, events and training that support diversity.

▲ EMPHASIZING FACULTY & STAFF DEVELOPMENT

ACTION: Establish a competitive fund for innovative faculty projects on teaching and learning.

ACTION: Offer training to faculty and staff on student retention issues, including how to identify a student in trouble and how to make an appropriate referral.

THE GUIDING PRINCIPLE

Student success must be built upon a foundation of collaboration among all university sectors, especially the Offices of Student Affairs, Academic Affairs, and Administration and Finance. Individual schools, colleges and departments will work to make retention a top priority within their programs.

A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT DENNISON

Simply stated, we intend to increase the retention rate by assuring that more of the entering freshmen have the support necessary for them to progress to graduation. Success will depend upon student engagement as well as institutional support. **PARTNERING FOR STUDENT SUCCESS** presents our vision of what we – the University and the students – must do to make that happen.

The Action Plan outlined here sets forth specific initiatives that will promote a successful first year for entering freshmen and address the needs of returning sophomores and upper division students. With enrollment for 2008-2009 reaching new levels (over 14,000 students), these new collaborative efforts and partnerships promise to sustain our growth and provide students with the programs they need to succeed.